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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

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SUBJECT	Military Training of Students at Brno Technical University for Construction Engineering	DATE DISTR.	17 May 1955
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 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

DATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI		AEC					
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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 15 Feb. 1955

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Introduction of Military Classes

1. [redacted] the Technical University for Construction Engineering (Vysoka skola inzenyrskeho stavitelstvi), Brno, [redacted] students there received military instruction and training (referred to as VV - Vojenska vychova) six hours per week. These instructions were part of the regular school curriculum all four years. [redacted] class received their VV on Mondays from 1300 hours to 1900 hours. 25X1

2. [redacted] 25X1

3. Regular academic courses at the University lasted for four years. Each year group numbered approximately 200 students. In the freshman class [redacted] there were about 10 female students, and in the entire school about 30 female students. Female students were not required to take military instruction 25X1

4. [redacted] military education was introduced that this fact was publicized in newspapers at that time. Because of this military-education course, students of higher education were not subject to compulsory military service. Students attending 25X1

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universities and university-level technical schools were considered students of higher education.

5. [redacted] military-education classes were conducted by Army officers on active duty. Classroom instruction was conducted by majors and captains, while close-order drill was under the supervision of a reserve lieutenant, a sophomore at the same school, on an inactive duty status. About six Army officers comprised the military education staff. 25X1

Classroom Methods and Notebooks

6. No uniforms or weapons of any type were issued to students during [redacted] the military-education classes. However, military discipline was maintained in the classrooms. There were about eight classrooms set aside in which military instruction was carried on for the entire student body of the Technical University. 25X1

7. When an officer-instructor entered a classroom, the group leader called students to attention and reported to the instructor in a military manner. The instructor always took roll call at the beginning of each class. Whenever a student was called on, he had to stand at attention and give his name, which was always prefixed with "vojim" (soldier).

8. No textbooks were issued to students and no visual aids were utilized during the instruction, although the blackboard was utilized to illustrate certain points. Each student was issued a loose-leaf notebook in which he entered his notes.

9. The pages of the notebook were numbered by each student at the time of issue and the total number of pages was entered on the last page. This number was verified by the signature of an officer. After classes, notebooks were collected and kept in a locked steel cabinet located in the military-education classroom. Students were not permitted to make notes on loose sheets of paper; they could use only the notebooks designated for that purpose. Students were told by their instructors that the loss of a notebook, or any part thereof, and disclosure to other civilians of subjects taught was punishable by a military court martial and expulsion from school.

Division of Students into Classes

10. There were approximately 200 students in the freshman class of the Brno Technical University for Construction Engineering. This student body was divided into two groups, A and B, according to fields of specialization. Furthermore, each of groups A and B was subdivided into classes, with approximately 30 to 35 students in each, and numbered as class A-1, A-2, etc.

11. Military instruction was always given to two classes, such as A-1 and A-2, at the same time. For the purpose of military drills, students of each class were divided into four squads, with eight to nine students in each squad. Every class had its own commander and an assistant commander, with a leader for each squad. These positions were held by members of the Union for Cooperation with the Army (SVAZARM - Svaz pro Spolupraci s armadou) or members of the Communist Party. No student participating in the military-education classes, including the student class and squad commanders, held any rank.

Summer Training

12. Upon the completion of the second and fourth years at the Technical University, students had to undergo one month of military training during their summer vacation. At these times they were issued

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uniforms and weapons. For such summer training periods, students had to report to the Military Summer Training Area in Labava (N 49-43, E 17-31) in Moravia and to certain other unidentified military garrisons.

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Commissioning of Students

13. According to the instructors, students of Brno Technical University, at the time of graduation, were to be commissioned as reserve officers with ranks commensurate with their progress in military education. The highest rank attainable was a captaincy.

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students of the University were being trained as anti-aircraft reserve officers.

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Courses of Instruction

14. attended the following military education classes and drills,

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Military Law and Discipline	Approximately three hours
Infantry Weapons	Approximately four hours
Map Reading	Approximately two hours
AAA Firing Instructions	Approximately four hours
Chemical Warfare	Approximately four hours
Close-Order Drill	Approximately twelve hours
Combat Tactics, General	Approximately four hours

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Military Law and Discipline

15. Military law and discipline were explained, as well as the rights and duties of soldiers and military trial procedures.

Infantry Weapons

16. CZ-Model 24 rifle was taught. The nomenclature of this weapon was given to students and they practiced taking it apart and assembling it.

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17. This class was conducted at the nearby Foresters' College, located on Lesnicka Street, Brno-Cerne Pole (see page 6, point 3). At this school, one of the classrooms was used as an arms room. The rifles were issued to students through a small door-type window by a soldier on duty. While being handed [] rifle, [] saw only some rifle racks in the arms room. No names or signatures were taken at the time of rifle distribution.

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18. The rifles used during this class were old weapons and had bores filled with lead. A large hole was also drilled through the bolt chamber. The rifle barrel itself was marked with two bands about three centimeters wide. The bands were painted red and were located at the tip and near center.

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Map Reading

19. attended only one class in map reading, one of an introductory type. The instructor stressed the military importance of maps, the necessity of knowing how to read maps, and the history of maps. Students were issued no military maps during this class, nor was there any classroom map used for practical demonstrations.

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AAA Firing

20. In November 1953, [] class received AAA firing instructions at an unidentified military barracks located in an unidentified military garrison in Brno-Cerne Pole (see page 6, point 4). Students were transported there by a 3½-ton Praga RND Army truck driven by a soldier. The three 85-mm. S-T-88 Soviet AA-guns¹ with which students were trained were located in the yard of the above-mentioned military installation. The instructor was not assisted by any soldiers in demonstrating the servicing of the piece. Students were simply divided into crews of seven men each, and they alternated in giving commands and taking the various positions of each crew member. [] recalled gun-crew positions to have been as follows: azimuth setter, elevation setter, fuse setter, leader, ammunition carrier #1, ammunition carrier #2, gun commander. 25X1

Chemical Warfare

21. [] military gases 25X1
 were divided into several groups according to their effects. 25X1
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 Sniff sets were not used for practical demonstration, nor were students issued any gas masks. The students were told that gas masks were going to be issued later and that they would go through a gas-chamber exercise. Students were further told that in case of war they would be issued capes (plastenka) for protection against gases disseminated by aircraft.

22. [] some of the students requested information on "napalm", but the officer in charge of the class was unable to give them the desired information. He did tell them, however, that each T/34 tank was furnished with a flame-thrower, [] the effective range of which was 800 m. No mention was made of atomic or bacteriological warfare. 25X1
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Close-Order Drill

23. Close-order drills were conducted on the Fair Grounds in Brno-Pisarky (see page 6, point 2). These drills were conducted under the command of a sophomore Technical University student who was a reserve Army lieutenant on inactive status. 25X1
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 [] Each individual student was given a chance to give commands and drill other students.

General Combat Tactics

24. During the instruction on combat tactics it was explained to the class that the infantry division was divided into three groups before combat. [] was unable to recall the functions of each group but remembered that the third group remained in reserve. 25X1

25. In pincer movements only infantry troops were to be utilized, while in wedge-type advances both tanks and foot soldiers were employed. An offensive action was always preceded by intensive artillery fire. Warfare in woods was very slow and disadvantageous.

26. Combat tactics employed by the Soviet Army against the Germans in World War II in the battles of Jaslo (Poland) and Dukla (a mountain pass in Czechoslovakia) were described during one of the Combat Tactics classes. According to the instructor, artillery played the most important and decisive role in these two campaigns. 25X1
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Legend: Installations and Areas Utilized for Students' Military Training in Brno (see page 6).

1. Technical University for Construction Engineering (Civilian) Located, since the fall of 1953, on Na Porici Street, left bank of the river Svatka, near the bridge connecting Krizova and Konev streets.
2. Fair Grounds Students of the Technical University for Construction Engineering took their close-order military drills at this location.
3. Foresters' College Located on the corner of Lesnicka and Zemedelska streets. Some lectures for Technical University students were given there.
4. Unidentified Military Installation at Brno-Cerne Pole The class on nomenclature, stripping, and assembling of rifles, as described in paragraph 17 of this report, was conducted there. Military training was also given there to Foresters' College students.

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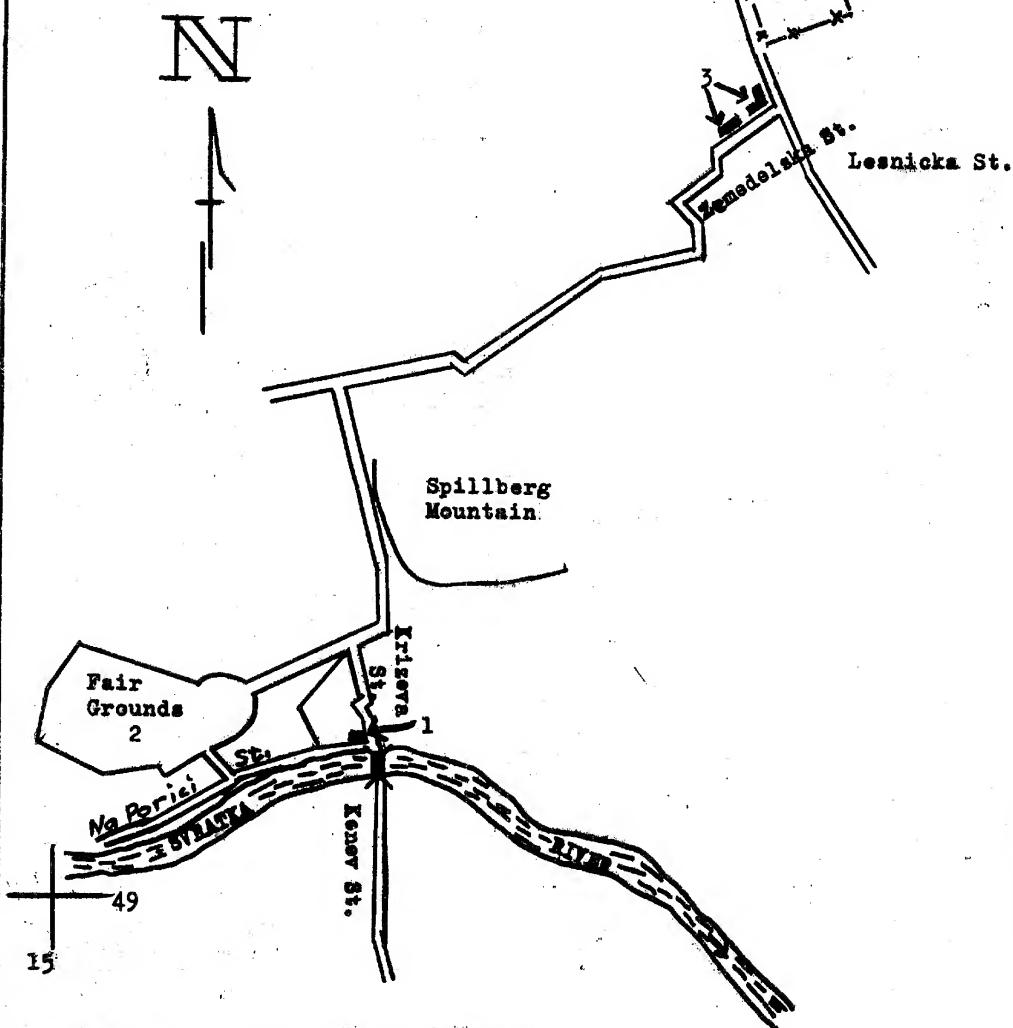
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Installations and Areas Utilized
for Military Training of Students, BRNO

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Map Ref: BRNO, Czechoslovakia

Scale: 1:25,000

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